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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 5, 1957

NSC Declassification/Release Instructions on File

Dear Allen:

As a result of my recent conversations with the British Prime Minister we agreed, in our concluding talk, on certain procedural measures to achieve the maximum political coordination of the policies of our two Governments in the political, economic, defense, scientific and psychological warfare fields.

Mr. Macmillan and I nominated our respective Secretaries of State for Foreign Affairs to consult together and to agree on particular areas of policy or on specific problems of a character which cannot be easily dealt with through normal channels. In such cases they were directed to establish working groups of American and British officials with the composition varied according to subject and including representation from all interested Departments and Agencies of the two Governments. The main objective of these working groups will be to facilitate the processing of problems where the main responsibilities are Anglo-American in character or where prior concert of Anglo-American policy would contribute to the more effective functioning of the multi-lateral organizations to which they both belong. Similarly, there will be occasions when it would be desirable, after preliminary Anglo-American discussions, to make an approach to particular friendly governments with a view to concerting action with them also.

The North Atlantic Council meeting in December, which is to be attended by heads of government, will offer the first opportunity for us to address ourselves to the implementation of the broader objectives enunciated in the communique issued at the end of Mr. Macmillan's visit. Preparations for United States participation in this meeting and the formulation of programs and policies to be discussed with our allies there will be the responsibility of the Secretary of State who will coordinate the views of all Government agencies. I am asking General Robert Cutler of my staff to assist Secretary Dulles in this effort.

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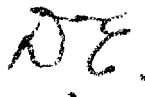
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In informing you of these policy decisions and in requesting your full cooperation with the Secretary of State, I would add my personal interest in insuring that all who may participate in the working groups to be established by the Secretary of State carry out their tasks in the spirit as well as the letter of the Anglo-American Declaration of Common Purpose issued by Prime Minister Macmillan and myself at the end of our conference. I am attaching a copy of this Declaration which I hope you will keep close at hand in connection with whatever responsibilities your Department may have for United States activities abroad. Finally I would ask you to observe the confidential nature of the Anglo-American procedural arrangements described above and, to the extent possible, the existence of any Anglo-American working groups which may be established as a result.

Sincerely,



The Honorable Allen W. Dulles
Director of Central Intelligence
Washington, D. C.

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White House

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 25, 1957

James C. Hagerty, Press Secretary to the President
C. Peter Hope, Head, News Department, Foreign Office

THE WHITE HOUSE

Declaration of Common Purpose

The President of the United States and the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, at the end of three days of meetings at which they were assisted by the Secretary of State and the Foreign Secretary and other advisers, issued the following statement:

I.

We have met together as trusted friends of many years who have come to head the governments of our respective countries. These two countries have close and historic ties, just as each has intimate and unbreakable ties with other free countries.

Recognizing that only in the establishment of a just peace can the deepest aspirations of free peoples be realized, the guiding purpose of our deliberations has been the determination of how best to utilize the moral, intellectual and material strength of our two nations in the performance of our full share of those tasks that will more surely and promptly bring about conditions in which peace can prosper. One of these tasks is to provide adequate security for the free world.

The free nations possess vast assets, both material and moral. These in the aggregate are far greater than those of the Communist world. We do not ignore the fact that the Soviet rulers can achieve formidable material accomplishments by concentrating upon selected developments and scientific applications, and by yoking their people to this effort. Despotisms have often been able to produce spectacular monuments. But the price has been heavy. For all peoples yearn for intellectual and economic freedom, the more so if from their bondage they see others manifest the glory of freedom. Even despots are forced to permit freedom to grow by an evolutionary process, or in time there will be violent revolution. This principle is inexorable in its operation. Already it has begun to be noticeable even within the Soviet orbit. If the free nations are steadfast, and if they utilize their resources in harmonious cooperation the totalitarian menace that now confronts them will in good time recede.

In order, however, that freedom may be secure and show its good fruits, it is necessary first that the collective military strength of the free nations should be adequate to meet the threat against them. At the same time, the aggregate of the free world's military expenditure must be kept within limits compatible with individual freedom. Otherwise we risk losing the very liberties which we seek to defend.

These ideas have been the central theme of our conversations which, in part, were participated in by Mr. Spaak, the Secretary-General of NATO.

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In application of these ideas, and as an example which we believe can and should spread among the nations of the free world, we reached the following understanding:

II

1. The arrangements which the nations of the free world have made for collective defense and mutual help are based on the recognition that the concept of national self-sufficiency is now out of date. The countries of the free world are interdependent and only in genuine partnership, by combining their resources and sharing tasks in many fields, can progress and safety be found. For our part, we have agreed that our two countries will henceforth act in accordance with this principle.

2. Our representatives to the North Atlantic Council will urge an enlarged Atlantic effort in scientific research and development in support of greater collective security and the expansion of current activities of the Task Force working in this field under the Council's decision of last December.

3. The President of the United States will request the Congress to amend the Atomic Energy Act as may be necessary and desirable to permit of close and fruitful collaboration of scientists and engineers of Great Britain, the United States, and other friendly countries.

4. The disarmament proposals made by the Western representatives on the Disarmament Subcommittee in London and approved by all members of NATO are a sound and fair basis for an agreement which would reduce the threat of war and the burden of armaments. The indefinite accumulation of nuclear weapons and the indiscriminate spreading of the capacity to produce them should be prevented. Effective and reliable inspection must be an integral part of initial steps in the control and reduction of armaments.

5. In the absence of such disarmament as we are seeking, international security now depends, not merely on local defensive shields, but upon reinforcing them with the deterrent and retaliatory power of nuclear weapons. So long as the threat of International Communism persists, the free nations must be prepared to provide for their own security. Because the free-world measures are purely defensive and for security against outside threat, the period for which they must be maintained cannot be foreseen. It is not within the capacity of each nation acting alone to make itself fully secure. Only collective measures will suffice. These should preferably be found by implementing the provisions of the United Nations Charter for forces at the disposal of the Security Council. But if the Soviet Union persists in nullifying these provisions by veto, there must otherwise be developed a greater sense of community security. The framework for this exists in collective defense arrangements now participated in by nearly 50 free nations, as authorized by the Charter. All members of this community, and other free nations which so desire, should possess more knowledge of the total capabilities of security that are in being and in prospect. There should also be provided greater opportunity to assure that this power will in fact be available in case of need for their common security, and that it will not be misused by any nation for purposes other than individual and collective self-defense, as authorized by the Charter of the United Nations.

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For our part we regard our possession of nuclear weapons power as a trust for the defense of the free world.

6. Our two countries plan to discuss these ideas with all of their security partners. So far as the North Atlantic Alliance is concerned, the December meeting of the North Atlantic Council may, perhaps, be given a special character in this respect. This has been discussed with the Secretary-General of NATO, Mr. Spaak.

7. In addition to the North Atlantic Treaty, the Southeast Asia Collective Defense Treaty, the Baghdad Pact and other security arrangements constitute a strong bulwark against aggression in the various treaty areas. There are also vitally important relationships of a somewhat different character. There is the Commonwealth; and in the Western hemisphere the Organization of American States. There are individual mutual defense agreements to which the United States is a party.

8. We recognize that our collective security efforts must be supported and reinforced by cooperative economic action. The present offers a challenging opportunity for improvement of trading conditions and the expansion of trade throughout the free world. It is encouraging that plans are developing for a European Free Trade Area in association with the European Common Market. We recognize that especially in the less developed countries there should be a steady and significant increase in standards of living and economic development.

9. We took note of specific factors in the ideological struggle in which we are engaged. In particular, we were in full agreement that:

Soviet threats directed against Turkey give solemn significance to the obligation, under Article 5 of the North Atlantic Treaty, to consider an armed attack against any member of the Alliance as an attack against all;

The reunification of Germany by free elections is essential. At the Geneva Conference of 1955 Messrs. Khrushchev and Bulganin agreed to this with us and our French allies. Continued repudiation of that agreement and continued suppression of freedom in Eastern Europe undermine international confidence and perpetuate an injustice, a folly and a danger.

III.

The President and the Prime Minister believe that the understandings they have reached will be increasingly effective as they become more widespread between the free nations. By coordinating the strength of all free peoples, safety can be assured, the danger of Communist despotism will in due course be dissipated, and a just and lasting peace will be achieved.

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